In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 9-13 and 15 without prejudice and amend claim 14 as follows:

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Compounds of inhibitors of the enzymatic activity of dipeptidyl peptidase IV (DP IV), which compounds have the general formula A-B-C, wherein

A is an amino acid,

B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and

C is an unstable inhibitor of DP IV wherein said unstable inhibitor is a dipeptide compound having C-terminus with an active carbonyl group wherein said unstable inhibitor does not contain a boronate, phosphonate or trifluoroalkyl ketone group.

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Compounds according to claim 1, wherein B is selected from the group consisting of proline, hydroxyproline, thiazolidinecarboxylic acid, dehydroproline, pipecolic acid, azetidinecarboxylic acid and aziridinecarboxylic acid.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein, B is proline or hydroxyproline.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein said unstable inhibitor is a dipeptide compound having an active carbonyl group at the C-terminus selected from the group consisting of Ile-Thiazolidine, Ile-Pyrrolidine, Val-Thiazolidine and Val-Pyrrolidine.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein said inhibitors are present in salt form.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein said inhibitors are present as organic salts such as acetates, succinates, tartrates or fumarates or inorganic acid radicals such as phosphates or sulphates.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein A-B is a dipeptide of formula Ile-Pro or Gly-Pro and C is a dipeptidyl alkyl ketone compound.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A pharmaceutical composition for oral administration comprising the compound of claim 1 and customary pharmaceutical carriers or excipients.

9. (CANCELLED) A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition for the temporally controlled *in vivo* enzymatic inhibition of DP IV comprising providing a compound of the general formula A-B-C, wherein

A is an amino acid,

B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and

C is an unstable inhibitor of DP IV said unstable inhibitor is a dipeptide compound having a C-terminus with an active carbonyl group wherein said unstable inhibitor does not contain a boronate, phosphonate or trifluoroalkyl ketone group; and

preparing a pharmaceutical preparation containing said compound and customary pharmaceutical carriers or excipients.

10. (CANCELLED) The method of claim 9 wherein said compound is directed to cell-, tissue- or organ-specific enzymatic inhibition of DP IV.

11. (CANCELLED) A method of treating metabolic disorders in mammals by reducing elevated blood glucose as a result of modulating the DP IV enzymatic activity of a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the general formula A-B-C, wherein

A is an amino acid,

B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and

C is an unstable inhibitor of DP IV said unstable inhibitor is a dipeptide compound having a C-terminus with an active carbonyl group wherein said unstable inhibitor does not contain a boronate, phosphonate or trifluoroalkyl ketone group.

12. (CANCELLED) The method of claim 11 wherein said compounds are used to treat metabolic disorders in humans.

13. (CANCELLED) The method of claim 11 wherein said compounds are used to treat impaired glucose tolerance, diabetes mellitus, diabetic neuropathy and nephropathy and sequelae of diabetes mellitus in mammals.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A compound of claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ C is an unstable inhibitors of DP IV ~~are~~ selected from a group consisting of ~~a dipeptidyl alkyl ketone compound exempting fluoro alkyl ketone compounds~~, a dipeptidyl chloroalkyl ketone, ~~and~~ dipeptidyl pyridinium methyl ketone ~~radical~~ and a dipeptidyl alkyl ketone compound exempting trifluoroalkyl ketone compounds.

15. (CANCELLED) The method of claim 11 wherein said method of administration is oral.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Compound of inhibitors of the enzymatic activity of dipeptidyl peptidase IV (DP IV), which compounds have the general formula A-B-C, wherein

A is an amino acid,

B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and

C is an unstable inhibitor of DP IV wherein said unstable inhibitor is dipeptidyl cyanide.